



AFRICA CENTER FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES

Contemporary Security Challenges in the Horn of Africa
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Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Dr. Raymond Gilpin is the dean of academic affairs at ACSS. His research interests include Africa's security challenges, the intersection of energy and security, resource management and conflict dynamics, financial management in Africa's security sector, and public-private partnerships and peace.

Prior to joining the Africa Center as Academic Dean, he was the director of the Center for Sustainable Economies at the United States Institute of Peace, and has also served as academic chair for defense economics at ACSS, director for international programs at Intellibridge Corporation (now part of Eurasia Group), and senior economist at the African Development Bank Group.

He recently published: *Understanding the Nature and Origins of Violent Conflict in Africa*, in *Minding the Gap: African Conflict Management in a Time of Change*.

Dr. Gilpin holds a Ph.D. in development economics from Cambridge University and an executive certificate in international finance and capital markets from Georgetown University.

Mr. Mvemba Phezo Dizolele is an Adjunct Faculty Member with ACSS. He currently teaches as John Hopkins SAIS, and is a former Peter J. Duignan Distinguished Visiting Fellow at Stanford University's Hoover Institution. He is a frequent commentator and widely published analyst on African Affairs he has appeared in numerous prestigious news outlets. Dizolele has testified before the United States Congress and the United Nations Security Council. He was a grantee of the Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting and covered the 2006 historic elections in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

He is the author of the forthcoming biography: *Mobutu: the Rise and Fall of the Leopard King* and produced the documentary *Congo's Bloody Coltan* with the Pulitzer Center.

Mr. Dizolele holds a M.B.A. and M.P.P from the University of Chicago, and a B.A. in Political Science and French from Southern Utah University.

Dr. Amy Pate is a consultant with ACSS. She is the Research Director at START at the University of Maryland. Pate is a specialist in international relations and comparative politics, with particular foci on ethnic politics, democratization, political instability, terrorism, transnational organized crime, and counterinsurgency/counterterrorism. Prior to joining START as a researcher in 2011, Pate was research director of the Minorities at Risk Project.

She has carried out extensive research on the crime-terror nexus, the rise of Islamist political parties in Muslim-majority countries, the use of violence by extremist political organizations, and the determinants of ethnic rebellion in democratizing countries.

Dr. Pate is Lead Investigator on the ongoing START Project, *An Assessment of Jamā'at Ahl as-Sunnah lid-da'wa wal-Jihād (Boko Haram): Strengths, Vulnerabilities and Policy Options*. Recent publications include: *Terrorism Trends with a Focus on Energy and Mining* and *Al-Shabaab Attack on Garissa University in Kenya*.

Dr. Pate holds a Ph.D. and M.A. in Government and Politics from the University of Maryland, and a B.A. in Political Science, History, and Russian, Miami University (Ohio).